

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157288  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF:WBEDMONDSON:ML  
APPROVED BY AF:RMMOOSE  
S/S -O:RPERITO

-----079161 070215Z /75

O 070149Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157288

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH

SUBJECT: US-UK CONSULTATIONS WITH NKOMO

1. WE ARE CONCERNED BY REUTERS REPORT THAT NKOMO AT JULY 6 NEWS CONFERENCE SAID CONSTITUTION FOR RHODESIA SHOULD BE DISCUSSED ONLY AFTER SMITH WAS DEFEATED AND A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT DRAWN FROM GUERRILLA MOVEMENT WAS INSTALLED. SAME REPORT INDICATES LOW-GRAHAM MEETING WITH NKOMO WAS POSTPONED TO JULY 7 FOR UNSPECIFIED REASONS.

2. ALTHOUGH LUSAKA UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE ANALYTICAL CABLE EN ROUTE, IF REUTERS REPORT IS CORRECT AND MEANS THAT NKOMO IS INDEED REFUSING TO PROVIDE CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS PROMISED EARLIER, WE BELIEVE PROMPT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WITH PRESIDENTS KAUNDA AND NYERERE IN EFFORT HEAD OFF  
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SNOWBALLING EFFECT NKOMO'S POSITION COULD HAVE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE REACTION OF FCO LONDON AND CONSULTATIVE GROUP LUSAKA SOONEST, GIVEN NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY TO PROVIDE COORDINATED INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUCH APPROACHES.

3. GIVEN NATIONALISTS' PENCHANT FOR MAKING RADICAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHILE STILL COOPERATING IN NEGOTIATING PROCESS,

WE APPRECIATE IT QUITE POSSIBLE NKOMO MAY STILL GIVE

CONSULTATIVE GROUP HIS CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS TOMORROW.  
NONETHELESS WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANALYSIS OF IMPACT HIS  
PUBLIC POSITION WILL HAVE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTITUTION, PRESS CONFERENCES, NATIONALISTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** PINS, PDEV, SOPN, RH, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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